Table I-7b. Strength of evidence estimates of two primary outcomes, sensitivity and specificity, based on lowest cutpoint for diagnostic studies utilizing BNP in primary care settings

| **Included studies** | | **Outcome** | **Study design** | | **GRADE Risk of Bias\*** | **GRADE Consistency** | **GRADE Directness** | **GRADE Precision** | **GRADE Publication bias** | **# of patients** | **Effect size** | **GRADE of evidence for outcome** | **Overall GRADE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Arques,1 2005  Aspromonte,2 2007  Barrios,3 2011  Christenson,4 2010  Fuat,5 2006  Jeyaseelan,6 2007  Macabasco-O’Connell,8 2010  Mak,9 2008  Murtagh,10 2012  Zaphiriou,12 2005 | Sensitivity | | Case-series (n=9), cohort (n=1) | Low | | Consistent – range of estimates is small | Direct – Sensitivity is a tool used and understood by clinicians | Imprecise – confidence interval is small, but heterogeneity is large | Consistent – range of estimates is small | n=3,439 | 0.84 (0.77-0.92) | High | High |
| Arques,1 2005  Aspromonte,2 2007  Barrios,3 2011  Christenson,4 2010  Fuat,5 2006  Jeyaseelan,6 2007  Macabasco-O’Connell,8 2010  Mak,9 2008  Murtagh,10 2012  Zaphiriou,12 2005 | Specificity | | Case-series (n=9), cohort (n=1) | Low | | Inconsistent – range of estimates is large | Direct – Specificity is a tool used and understood by clinicians | Imprecise – confidence interval is small, but heterogeneity is large | No evidence to suggest | n=3,439 | 0.54 (0.42-0.66) | Moderate | Moderate |